I sat spinning at my wheel, in the sun, for the autumn day was cold, when I heard some one whistling; and looking up, there was young Squire Turner, with his arms folded on the gate, looking over. When he caught my eye he laughed, and I blushed; and arose and made him a courtesy.

He was a handsome gentleman, the Squire, and the hand from which he pulled the glove shimmered in the sun with pearls and diamonds; and he was bonny to look at, with his hair like spun gold in the October sunlight.

When I courtesied he bowed, and, said he, "I've spoiled one pretty picture that I could have looked at all day, but I've made another as pretty, so I'll not grieve. May I come in!"

"And welcome, sir," said I; and set a chair for him, for he was father's landlord; but for all that I felt uncomfortable. He talked away, paying me more compliments than I was used to, for grandmother, who brought me up, said, "handsome is as handsome does," and beauty is but skin deep."

Since I m telling the story I'll tell the truth. I had done wrong about one thing. Neither of the old folks knew I wore Evan Locke's ring in my bosom, or that we'd takeen a vow to each other beside the hawthorn that grew in the church lane. I never meant to deceive, but grannie was old and a little lard, and that love of mine was such a sweet secret. Besides, money seems to outweigh all else when people have struggled all their lives through to turn a penny, and they knew Evan was a poor, struggling young surgeon. I thought I'd wait a while until I could sweeten the news with the fact that he had begun to make his fortune.

door she came through, and I have give up my true love. a guess she heard them.

penny to pay it would be found.

had been as fond of each other never marry Evan Locke. and he came as often as before to talk with grandpa on the winter nights; and still every little.while ner, would drop in and sit in his a hasty word he had provoked there at my side was an elfish litlazy way watching me spin. Once when I spoke it, yet he must know or twice he was flushed with wine I loved him " and over bold, for he tried to kiss nus. But Squire or no squire, I boxed his ears for his pains, and and grandpa sighed and mouned, no softer than I could help either. and talked of the work house.

help seeing him when he came, and I did not deserve that Evan be angry with mc. But he was. Eh, so high and mighty, and spoke as though one like the square could mean no good by coming to so poor a place as the schoolmaster's.

"For that matter, the Squire would be glad to have me promise be." to marry him," said I. "He thinks more of me than-"

"May be you like him better," said Evan.

"I don't say that," replied I. But bad temper and jealousy scarce make me over fond of another. I pray I may never have a husband who will scold me." For he had been scolding me-no other name for it.

not see him for more than a week. she goes for the doctor's sake. ken-wull it dof" I was troubled much, though. I There's money to be made there." knew he would come again, and mayhap ask my pardon. For before you are wed you can bring

and shutting the door, stood be- hoods about my neighbors." tween grandma and me, looking at frightened At last he spoke:

"I've been to the Squire's," to tell him that I could not pay the place. Then I gave up hope. I love now-Squire Turner." rent when due."

I opened my lips. Grandma's hand covered them. Grandpa drew me to him

"Thou'rt young, lass," he said "and they are right who call you pretty. Child, coulds't like the Squire well enough to wed him?'

"Eh?" cried grandma. "Sure you're not wandering!"

"Squire Turner asked me for this lass of our to-night. Of all the women in the world there is but one he loves as he should his wife, that is our Agatha."

"I dreamt of golden rings and white ro-es on Christmas eve,' cried grannie "I knew the lass would be lacky."

But I put my head on grand father's shoulder and hid my face. The truth mu t out, I knew.

lady! ' said grandpa. And when he had waited for an answer, together.

"She's frightened," said grandma. "Nay, we must all wed once in our lives, my child."

Then grandpa talked to me. He told me how poor they had grown, and how kind the Squire was, and strength. I had but to marry him to make heaven only knew what might said to me; happen.

hard; but now there was no help for it. I took the ring from my bosom and laid it on my palm and I. told them it was Evan Locke's and that I had plighted my troth

That night we had something prayed heaven that he might love wedding robes. I wished it were sage that had been sent my promelse to think of. Misfortune had me always. In the morning it my shroud they were working on ised husband from me, come upon grandfather; but I was gone, ribbon and all, from instead. didn't foresee that when the half my neck. I looked for it high and And one night the pain in my Locke again," said I, "still I can year's rent should fall due, not a low, but found no sign of it. And heart grew too great, and I went never be another man's true love, I began to fear the loss of that out among the purple heather on for I am his until I die. All this time Evan Locke and I dear ring was a sign that I would the moor and there knelt down Then, as I looked, all the rich

never came near me.

"Oh, it was cruel in him,"

And grandma would scarcely look at me (I know why now), I could not h lp his coming, nor And I thought I should die of grief among them.

One day grandma said to me, 'It seems that your sweetheart is not over-anxious to see you.

"Why not?" said I. "Where has he been this month

ack!"

heart would burst. "You're going with him, may-

"Where!" said I.

She went to the kitchen door and beckoned in a woman who sat there-Dame Coombs, who had come over with eggs.

for a voyage"

"I told you so;" said grandma. bless you!"

"I don't believe it," said I.

fast closed and the door barred, said he. "For the first time I had and not a sign of life about the went home all pale and trembling. and sat down at grandma's knee. "It's true." said I.

"And for the sake of so false a weeping. lad you'll see your grandfather from a babe, a widow."

my own love does not want me.' |girl!"

And then I crept up stairs and

"Wilt have him and be a rich old face. And grandma grew so me see the squire. proud and kind, and all the house burst out with "No" and a sob could not forget Evan-Evan whom in a moment he stood before me in me without a word.

> sad. The squire talked of my ed me. health, and would make me ride with him over the moors for

The old folks said nothing. They my grandparents free from debt knew what ailed me; only our said I. "I thank you for thinkand poverty their lives through. little Scotch maid seemed to think ing so well of me, but after all that If I refused and vexed the Squire, there was aught wrong. Once she has passed, I-"

"She'll never ruin us," sobbed is dull and your cheek is pale, Agatha?" he said. and your braw grand lover canna Ah! it was hard to bear-bitter make ye smile: ye are na that ill, guilt-oh. I've been so sorely either."

"No, I am well enough," said to sob.

She looked wistfully at me.

Grannie came in from the dairy to him. And grandma called me might tell ye a cure," she said. to each other, waiting only for five minutes after the Squire was a deceitful wench, and grandfather But there was no help for me in better prospects to wed, and how gone, and heard he had been there. looked as though his heart would this world, and I couldn't open my when he honored me by an offer of I didn't tell her of his fine speeches, break. Oh, I would have done heart to simple Jennie. So the his hand, I angered my grandbut there was a keyhole to the anything for them-anything but days rolled by, and I was close on mother by owning to the truth, my marriage eve, and grannie and and of the ring grannie had stolen That night I kissed his ring and Dorthy Plume were busy with my from my breast, and the false mes-

I spoke the words aloud, and strong young man in tears. our young landlord, Squire Tur- thought, "to hold such anger for then started up in affright, for tle figure, and I heard a cry that me," he said. "Ah, me! The first I scarce thought earthly. Yet news is bad. I thought she did. it was but Scotch Jennie, who had This comes of vanity "

followed me. love now? ' she said; "ye sent him was gone ere you saw me. fra ye for sake o' the young squire."

me!"

But she caught my sleeve. "Dianna be yexed," she said. Just bide a wee, and answer what I speer. It's for love of you. squire wooed ye. Was it your wed him. will that the lad that loved the

ring again!"

said Jennie. "I rode with the erpool and found Evan Locke just mistress to young Doctor Locke's ready to set foot upon the Golden 'I heard you rightly," she said. place past the moor, and there she George, and told him a tale that "You told me that Evan Locke lighted and gave him a ring, and made his heart light and sent him and his mother were making ready what she said I know not, but it back to me. Heaven bless him!

liked me more than ever. But trouble," said Dame Coombs. grannie, you have cheated me and sea, where he had been twelve-

An Old Lady's Love Story, one night grandtather came in, "I'm no chatterbox to tell false- robbed me of my true love by a months, came our squire, withthe To California via Burlington And still I would not believe it from my neck and give it back to beside him, and the hall had a me so strangely that we both grew until I had walked across the Evan, as if from me? You I've mistress at last-a mistress who moor, and had seen the shutters loved and honored my life long-She turned scarlet. "True love!" said she: "You've but one true

> "You have done it!" I cried she looked down at that and fell to

sat down on my bedside, weak as stone. I knew nothing for an hour outlast us all, for I have it yet and 25c per box. For sale by B F though I had fainted. I would or more; but when I was better, I shall be ninety to morrow. Ninehave thanked heaven for forget- and they left me with Jenny, I ty! A good old age, and it can't fulness just then, but it wouldn't bade her fetch my hood and cloak be long now before I meet Evan To the Goldfields of the West and her own, and come with me, and the rest in heaven. The next day Squire Turner was and away I went across the moor in the parlor as my accepted lover. in the starlight to where the hall How pleased he was, and how the windows were ablaze with ligh., Pills are held all over the world color came back into grandfather's and asked the house-keeper to let has been well earned. They are

She stared at me for my boldness was aglo, and only I sad. But I -no wender-but called him. So I had loved so-sailing away from his evening dress, with his cheeks flushed and his eyes bright, and fective. I suppose they all saw I looked led me into a little room and seat-

"Agatha, my love, I hope no mischance brings you here." But I stopped him.

"Not your love, Squire Turner,"

I could say no more. He took "What ails ye, miss? Your eye my hand. "Have I offended you,

"Not you. The offence-the cheated!" and all I could do was

"And though I never see Evan

under the stars and prayed to be color faded out of the squire's face The days passed on, and he taken from the world; "for how and I saw the sight we seldom see can I live without Evan?" I said. more than once in a lifetime, a

> At last he arose and came to me. "My little Agatha never loved

"Many a higher and fairer have "Why do you call for your true hearts to give," I said, "Mine

And then, kind and gentle, as though I had grieved him, he gave "How dare you follow and watch | me his arm and saw me across the moor, and at the gate paused and whispered-

> "Be at rest, Agatha. The Goldden George has not sailed yet." "I liked him better than I had

"Eh! but he was fit to be a ground ye trod on should have his king-the grandest, kindest, the best of living men; who rode away "What do you mean?" said I. with the break of the morrow and "I'll speak gin I lose my place," never stopped till he reached Liv-

turned him the tint o' death, and And who was it that sent old "They're going to Canada. My said he: "There's na a drop a true grandfather the deed of gift that Ariz, Ark., Ia., Ind. Ty., Kans., son, a carpenter-and a good one, bluid in a woman 'gin she is false. made the cottage his own, and Ky., La., Minn., Miss., S. Mo., Well, Evan was wroth with me though I say it-made the doctor And he turned to the wall and who spoke a kind word to the N. Dak., Okla., Tenn., and Texas and I with him-not heart deep, a box for his things. The old covered his eyes, and your gran- gentry for young Dr. Locke that at one fare (plus \$2.00) for the though, I thought- and we did lady dreads the new country, but nie rode home. There, 'tia all I helped him into practice! Still no round trip. Good one month. one but Squire Turrer, whom we Stop overs. Just the thing. If "Ay, Jennie," said I; "heaven taught our children to pray for you contemplate a trip confer with every night. For we were married me, for full particulars. Two (2) And had I wings on my feet I and in a f.w years had boys and fast trains daily Kirksville to St. "They've sold the house and could not have come to the cottage girls at our knees; and when the Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines, your lover to his senses. So I did gone to Liverpool to take ship; door sooner. I stood before my eldest was night two, the thing I and St. Paul, with through chair not fret after Evan's absence, nor and you may find out the truth for grandmother, trembling and white, needed to make me quite happy cars and sleepers via "The Great Howard Elliott, Gen. Mgr., quite snub Squire Turner, who yourself, if you choose to take the and I said; "Oh, don't tell me, happened-and from far over the Wahash Route."

lie. Did you steal the troth ring bonniest lady that ever blushed loved the squire as I loved Evan.

Eh, but it's an old story. She that I remembered a girl I saw in the coffin withered and old. And then they opened the vault where 'It's written on your face." And the squire had slept ten years to put her beside him; and I've nothing left of Evan, my life and my "My own true love was break- love, but his memory, and it seems ruined and break his heart, and ing his heart," she said. "My as if every hope and dream of joy leave me, that have nursed you husband and I had loved for forty I ever had were put away under years. I did it to sa chim. Could the tombstones. And even the I looked at her as she sobbed I let a girl's fancy worth nothing Golden George, the great strong rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped and found st ength to say: "Give stand in my way and see him a ship that would have borne my hands, chilblains, corns, and all me to whom you will then, since beggar in his old age! Oh girl, dear from me has moulded away at the bottom of the sea. And And then I fell at her feet like a think my wedding ring is like to

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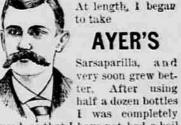
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Done by order of the county court March 6th 1856. H. K. Grishaw, Clerk. Kirksville, Mo. March 25, 1895

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